Docket No. 0879-0300P

Art Unit: 2616 Page 2 of 7

REMARKS

Favorable reconsideration and allowance of the present application are

respectfully requested in view of the following remarks. Claims 1-22 remain

pending. Claims 1, 5, 6, 7, 8, 10 and 15 are independent.

ALLOWABLE SUBJECT MATTER

Applicant appreciates that the Examiner has indicated claims 7-15 and

19-22 are allowable. See Office Action, item 5.

§103 REJECTION - TAKAHASHI, HAMANO

Claims 1-4 and 16 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as allegedly

being unpatentable over Takahashi et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,671,451) in view of

Homano et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,604,928). See Office Action, item 2. Applicant

respectfully traverses.

For a §103 rejection to be proper, a prima facie case of obviousness must

be established. See MPEP 2142. One requirement to establish the prima facie

case of obviousness is that there must be a suggestion or motivation within the

cited references to modify the references as proposed by the Examiner in the

Office Action. See MPEP 2143.01. The cited references must be considered in

their entirety including disclosures that teach away from the claimed invention.

Docket No. 0879-0300P

Art Unit: 2616

Page 3 of 7

See MPEP 2141.02. If the cited reference or references teach away from the

claimed invention, then the combination is improper and the rejection must fail.

In this instance, independent claim 1 recites, in part "a controller

stopping elements of the camera from generating noise that interferes with said

GPS unit while said GPS unit is obtaining the measurement data to be

recorded, the elements generating the noise comprising at least one of said

image pickup and said recorder." The Examiner alleges that Takahashi

discloses a GPS unit which is built in the camera and to which electricity is

supplied from a common battery with the camera. The Examiner then admits

that Takahashi fails to disclose the control means for stopping the elements of

the camera from generating noise that interferes with the GPS unit while the

GPS unit is obtaining measurement data to be recorded.

It is logical that Takahashi does not disclose the control means to stop

elements of the camera from operating while the GPS unit is also operating.

Takahashi is directed toward a data recording unit in a camera capable of

recording pieces of information together with the photographed image. See

Takahashi, column 1, lines 5-7. The types of information recorded together with

the image include position information data obtained through the GPS receiver

and the time information. See Figures 6a-6d.

Takahashi discloses three embodiments describing the ways that the

camera can be operated. The first embodiment is illustrated in Figures 4 and 5,

Docket No. 0879-0300P

*Art Unit: 2616* 

Page 4 of 7

the second embodiments are illustrated in Figures 8 and 9, and the third

embodiment is illustrated in Figures 12 and 13. In all embodiments, when the

camera is initially powered on, the camera performs steps S1 and S2.

Takahashi states "when main switch 20 of a camera is turned on (S1), charging

for a flash unit and other operations are made in the camera, and the camera

will be ready for photographing. On the other hand, CPU 2 starts driving GPS

receiver 32 simultaneously (S2)." Emphasis added; see Takahashi, column 7,

lines 16-20; column 8, line 66; column 9, line 3; and column 10, lines 23-27. In

other words, Takahashi discloses turning on both the imaging system as well

as the GPS unit so that the camera is ready for photographing.

Because Takahashi specifically teaches simultaneously turning on both

the imaging system as well as the GPS system for the purpose of readying the

camera for photographing as soon as possible, Takahashi clearly teaches away

from the feature of stopping elements of the camera from generating noise that

interferes with the GPS unit while the GPS unit is obtaining measurement data

to be recorded. Because Takahashi teaches away from the invention as claimed

in claim 1, any combination of references that includes Takahashi is improper

and the rejection must fail. Therefore, independent claim 1 is distinguishable

over the combination of Takahashi and Homano.

The combination of Takahashi and Homano is also improper for the

following reason. It is well established that if the proposed modification renders

Docket No. 0879-0300P

Art Unit: 2616

Page 5 of 7

the cited reference unsatisfactory for its intended purpose, then by definition,

there is no suggestion or motivation to make the proposed modification. See

MPEP 2143.01. In this instance, the Examiner suggests modifying Takahashi

with Homano that allegedly teaches a control unit deactivating a computer unit

when the transmit-receive unit is performing communication processing in

order to avoid being affected by high frequency noise with the system activation

of the computer unit. The Applicant does not necessarily agree that Homano

teaches such a feature.

However, for the sake of argument, Applicant takes the Examiner's

allegation to be true. Furthermore, Applicant assumes that Takahashi can be

modified as alleged by the Examiner. When such modification occurs, then it

must be that in step S2 of Takahashi's embodiments, the imaging system

remains off as the GPS receiver is turned on. When this occurs, the camera is

NOT performing operations to be ready for photographing. Clearly, modifying

Takahashi with Homano as alleged by the Examiner would render Takahashi

unsatisfactory for its intended purpose, i.e. performing operations to be ready

for photographing. Thus, Takahashi and Homano cannot be combined as

suggested by the Examiner.

In addition, one of ordinary skill would not be motivated to combine

Takahashi and Hamano. Takahashi discloses a film-based camera. As such,

there are few noises, if any, that would interfere with the GPS unit. Takahashi

Docket No. 0879-0300P

Art Unit: 2616
Page 6 of 7

discloses a composition that includes a camera section 1, the GPS receiver 2

and the processing section 3 all connected together. See e.g. Takahashi,

Figures 2(a) and 2(b). Because the GPS unit is not built into the camera, the

GPS unit is not influenced by the noises of the camera section 1. Also, the

camera section 1 and the data recording apparatus have separate power source

preserving circuits 25 and 38. In short, the GPS receiver 2 of Takahashi is not

influenced by the noise of the camera section 1. Thus, there is no motivation

to apply the technology as disclosed in Hamano to Takahashi, i.e. there is no

motivation to combine Takahashi and Hamano.

For at least the above-stated reasons, independent claim 1 and the

dependent claims 2-4 and 16 are distinguishable over the combination of

Takahashi and Homano. Applicant respectfully request that the rejection of

claims 1-4 and 16 based on Takahashi and Homano be withdrawn.

§ 103 REJECTION - TAKAHASHI, HAMANO, ISHII

Claims 5-6 and 17-18 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as

allegedly being unpatentable over Takahashi in view of Homano and further in

view of Ishii et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,410,225). See Office Action, item 4.

Applicant respectfully traverses.

As demonstrated above, any rejection based on a combination of

references that includes Takahashi and Homano cannot stand. As a result, the

U.S. Application No. 09/788,499 Docket No. 0879-0300P

Art Unit: 2616

Page 7 of 7

rejection of claims 5-6 and 17-18 based on a combination of Takahashi,

Homano and Ishii fails. Applicant respectfully requests that the rejection of

claims 5-6 and 17-18 based on Takahashi, Homano and Ishii be withdrawn.

CONCLUSION

All objections and rejections raised in the Office Action having been

addressed, it is respectfully submitted that the present application is in

condition for allowance. Should there be any outstanding matters that need to

be resolved, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact Hyung Sohn (Reg.

No. 44,346), to conduct an interview in an effort to expedite prosecution in

connection with the present application.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent,

and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit

Account No. 02-2448 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16

or 1.17; particularly, extension of time fees.

Respectfully submitted,

BIRCH, STEWART, KOLASCH &, BIRCH, LLP

Bv:

Michael R. Cammarata, #39,491

P.O. Box 747

Falls Church, VA 22040-0747

(703) 205-8000

MRC/HNS